

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 38-48, 50-75, and 77 are pending. In the present amendment, Claims 38, 44, 45, and 74 are currently amended. Support for the present amendment can be found in Figures 6-16 and the corresponding description. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 38-48, 50-75, and 77 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over “Object-Oriented Software Engineering: Conquering Complex and Changing Systems” by Bruegge et al. (hereinafter “Bruegge”) in view of Graham et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,437,688, hereinafter “Graham”).

In response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection and traverse this rejection, as discussed below.

Claim 38 recites a method for designing an architecture and specifications of a hardware and software system of a product implemented by an electrical architecture designing device. Claim 38 is hereby amended to better clarify how the hierarchical list is arranged and how the list is displayed on a first side of the display while other parts of the system are displayed on the second side of the display.

Specifically, the hierarchical list is arranged such that each item on a same level in the hierarchical list has a same indentation amount from an edge of the display and each level has a different indentation amount. An example of such a hierarchical list can be seen as reference character 620 in Figure 6.

This hierarchical list is displayed on a first side of the display. Further, in the associating step recited in Claim 38, when a user of the designing device selects a certain use case from the hierarchical list, which is associated with a user request, an initial state, and

final state, the use case, user request, initial state, and final state are displayed on a second side of the display with the hierarchical list on the first side of the display. Figure 6 shows an exemplary embodiment in which the use case of “user opens trunk” and the associated user request, initial state, and final state are displayed on the second side of the display with the hierarchical list displayed on the first side of the display. Thus, the method provides a simplified way to design an architecture and specifications of a hardware and software system of a product that is user friendly and easy to navigate.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not disclose or suggest every feature recited in independent Claim 38.

Chapter 6 of Bruegge relates to system design. In section 3a on page 3, the Office Action equates Figures 6-4 and 6-7 to the claimed hierarchical display. However, as can be seen in Figures 6-4 and 6-7 of Bruegge, these displays merely show folders of the system, and do not have the claimed arrangement of a hierarchical list. Thus, a user cannot tell from Figures 6-4 and 6-7 the hierarchy of the items being displayed.

Further, Bruegge does not disclose or suggest that a hierarchical list would be displayed on one side of the display while the other side of the display shows additional details related to an item selected from the hierarchical list. Thus, the system designed described in Bruegge would not allow a user to design architecture and specifications of a hardware and software system with the same efficiency or ease of use as the claimed system. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Graham does not cure these deficiencies of Bruegge.

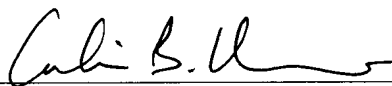
Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that Bruegge in view of Graham does not disclose or suggest every feature recited in independent Claim 38. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claim 38, and all claims dependent thereon, be withdrawn.

Independent Claims 44 and 74, while directed to alternative embodiments, recite features similar to those discussed above with respect to Claim 38. Thus, it is also respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 44 and 74, and all claims dependent thereon, as unpatentable over Bruegge in view of Graham be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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